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To the Medford District BLM concerning the WOPR
(Western Oregon Plan Revisions):

Copies to Senators Gordon Smith and Ron Wyden,
Representative Peter de Fazio

Governor Ted Kulongoski

October 15, 2007

I have read all I could of the over 1600 pages of the
disturbing document known as the WOPR.

Public opposition is running high for very good reasons:

- 1) What is the purpose of cutting down more trees that are needed in the US market as current housing starts are at an all-time low and the lumber market is already flooded?
- 2) What is accomplished by cutting down old growth areas and canopied forests and turning them into young tree plantations that will be fire-prone for decades to come and need more tax dollars for thinning and maintenance?
- 3) What is accomplished by generating environmental destruction in the touristed areas of Oregon that also attract new residents, retirees, and state income?
- 4) Why would you do away with the environmental protections of the Northwest Forest Plan just at a time when science and practical reason shows that they can work?
- 5) Why are the riparian area protections reduced to almost nothing so that run-off, pollution, flooding, and fish kills are inevitable?
- 6) How is it that you steadily ignore the six provisions of the O&C Act that include mandates to the BLM for developing recreation (not just for off-road vehicles), support of local economies, and provision for preservation of the land?
- 7) At this time of known global warming due to man-made effects, trees are our best absorbers of carbon dioxide and air pollution while producing oxygen and attracting valued rains. Why would you want to exchange this valuable resource for timber company gains?

My questions could continue, and you can be sure that the present version of the WOPR will be challenged by thinking Oregonians.

My point is that doing away with the provisions of the Northwest Plan is not only dangerous to our environment in terms of increased fire danger and climate change but hazardous to the tourism and attractive environment that makes Oregon a desirable place to live.

I have visited the West coast of Washington state and the Coos Bay area recently. Almost everything that could be logged has been logged to the detriment of the people, the local economy, and the natural beauty that once was there.

Timber profits should never take precedence over your participation, as a tax-funded federal agency, in preserving the quality of our environment!

Why should taxpayers support and pay for your pseudo-science and short-sighted ideas? I encourage you to rethink this whole disastrous plan and make efforts to regain public credibility.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dorothea Hover-Kramer".

Sincerely, Dorothea Hover-Kramer 5553 West Side Rd. Cave Junction, OR 97523 Tel. 592-5296